

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 400929

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Takayuki MIMURA

Application No. 09/714,267

Art Unit: 2122

Examiner: K. Gross

Filed: November 11, 2000

For: SCENARIO ANALYSIS CONTROL
SYSTEM DEVICE

REQUEST FOR PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 26, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests a personal interview with the Examiner.

Applicant wishes to discuss the rejection of independent claims 1 and 6 as unpatentable over Coleman, Redford, and Clarisse. Initially, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection. However, though the Official Action provides citations from the reference, Applicant is still confused as to how the cited references are being applied in the rejection. For example, the Official Action contends that Clarisse teaches storing a quantity of steps executable in response to a single start-up; however, Applicant does not understand what the Examiner regards as the start-up in Clarisse, nor how a quantity of steps is stored in response to a start-up. Furthermore, the Official Action contends Clarisse teaches determining which steps to execute because Clarisse discloses that the counter may be set to do so. However, Applicant does not understand how a counter can be used to determine which steps to execute, especially with regard to priority levels.

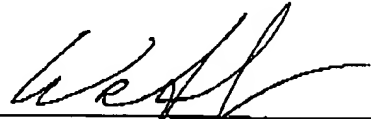
In spite of Applicant's lack of understanding of the rejection, Applicant further wishes to discuss how the claims may be amended in order to advance prosecution.

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Applicant still further wishes to discuss the Official Action's interpretation of the phrase "quantity of steps" recited in claims 1 and 10. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the interpretation set forth in the Official Action. Because the issue is purely semantic, Applicant believes this issue may be most productively resolved by a personal discussion between the Examiner and Applicant's representative.

In view of the foregoing, a personal interview is appropriate and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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